

Message Text

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43

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 /026 W

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O 211235Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3762

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 1254

PERSONAL FOR SECRETARY SIMON FROM AMBASSADOR
PORTER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SIMON, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SECRETARY OF TREASURY

REF STATE 41785, JIDDA 1226, STATE 39052

1. I AM VERY INTERESTED IN SEEING THAT YOUR FORTHCOMING VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA BE AS PRODUCTIVE AND USEFUL AS POSSIBLE. IT IS, AS YOU KNOW, THE FIRST HIGH LEVEL VISIT AFTER PRESENTATION OF MY CREDENTIALS. I AM THUS DOUBLY INTERESTED IN SEEING IT BE A SUCCESS. YOU MAY NOT HAVE NOTICED OUR RECENT COMMENTS ON THE DIFFICULTY OF ACCOMMODATING LARGE GROUPS IN RIYADH. IN ADDITION TO ROUTINE PROBLEMS OF FINDING ADEQUATE HOTEL SPACE, PRESIDENT SADAT IS ARRIVING AT RIYADH TODAY AND LEAVING ONLY IMMEDIATELY BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL. THIS GREATLY LIMITS THE ABILITY OF ROYAL PROTOCOL TO ASSIST IN ADVANCE PREPARATIONS AND COMPOUNDS OUR PROBLEMS. THESE PROBLEMS ARE EXACERBATED BY CURRENT PLANS FOR PERSONNEL IN THE DELEGATION TO ARRIVE AT SEPARATE TIMES.

2. WE WILL URGE ROYAL PROTOCOL TO ARRANGE FOR YOUR AIRCRAFT TO REMAIN IN RIYADH, AND TO FIND ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ENTIRE PARTY. HOWEVER, WE
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WILL NOT HAVE ACCESS TO ABDUL WAHAB, HEAD OF

ROYAL PROTOCOL UNTIL WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25. HE IS
NOW COMPLETELY TIED UP WITH THE SADAT VISIT.

3. I WOULD CONSIDER IT A PERSONAL FAVOR IF YOU
WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF
THE PARTY COMING TO RIYADH TO SUCH PROPORTIONS
THAT EVERYONE COULD ARRIVE ON YOUR AIRCRAFT.
I AM QUITE SURE, AFTER MY RECENT DISCUSSIONS
WITH THE KING AND OTHERS IN THE ROYAL DIWAN IN
RIYADH THAT THIS GESTURE ON YOUR PART WOULD BE
MOST APPRECIATED. I CAN ALSO ASSURE YOU THAT
YOUR ACTION WILL CONTRIBUTE MATERIALLY TO THE
SUCESS OF YOUR TRIP.
PORTER

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